

REMARKS

In this paper, claims 13, 17 and 28 are amended, and claims 1-12, 18-19 and 29-30 are canceled. After entry of the above amendment, claims 13-17, 20-28 and 31-32 are pending, and claims 1-12, 18-19 and 29-30 have been canceled.

The applicant appreciates the indicated allowability of claims 17, 19, 28 and 30 if rewritten in independent form. Claims 17 and 28 have been rewritten in independent form, so it is believed that those claims are now allowable. The subject matter of allowable claim 19 has been incorporated into claim 13.

Claims 13-16, 20-27 and 31-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ethington (US 5,599,244). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, independent claim 13 has been amended to include the feature of claim 19, which the examiner indicated as being patentable. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 13-16, 20-27 and 31-32 are now allowable.

Claims 18 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ethington in view of Horiuchi (US 6,367,833). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed for the same reasons noted above.

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 have been overcome by the foregoing amendment and remarks, and it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

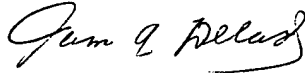
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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James A. Deland".

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